

State of Arizona

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Statement by Governor Brewer

"This week, Arizona said goodbye to a hero in every sense of the word. Pfc. Keith Little, President of the Navajo Code Talkers Association and one of its most prominent remaining members, passed away in Fort Defiance at the age of 87.

"Pfc. Little joined the Marines when he was 17, stirred to service by the shocking attack on Pearl Harbor and guided by his passion to protect and serve this nation. He was one of hundreds of Navajos recruited by the Marine Corps and trained to use the code language that would play an instrumental role in WWII and save countless American lives.

"As Arizonans and Americans, we are forever indebted to Pfc. Little for his service, his strength and his honor to the United States. On this day that he is laid to rest, let us all take a moment to offer our gratitude and prayers for Pfc. Little, his family and his fellow Code Talkers."

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